



Office for Domestic Preparedness



TEEX



WATER AND WASTEWATER SECURITY TRAINING

COURSE INFORMATION PACKET

This training program was developed in cooperation with
Texas A&M University System, Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)
National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC)
A Member of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium



Who is NERRTC?

The National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC) is based in College Station, Texas as part of the Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) and The Texas A&M University System (TAMUS). Additionally, we are a member of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC) comprised of the following entities:

- Center for Domestic Preparedness – Fort McClellan, Alabama
- Academy of Counter-Terrorist Education – Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
- Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center – Socorro, New Mexico
- National Exercise, Test and Training Center – Nevada Test Site

The National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC) has developed courses as part of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium's curricula to improve the abilities of jurisdictions to combat terrorism. With the threat of terrorism on the rise, critical public infrastructure is an obvious target. In the event a terrorist incident occurs at the community water and/or wastewater treatment system, the industry personnel will play a crucial role in the response by providing valuable resources and expertise. NERRTC is offering three (3) Water and Wastewater Security training courses pertaining to *Acts of Terrorism/Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Preparedness and Response*. Each course targets a different audience group based on the respective job discipline within the industry. Those groups include Executives, Utility Operations and Small System Operators. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) sponsors and funds these courses.

Course Overviews

The three (3) courses being offered include:

- Acts of Terrorism/Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Preparedness and Response for Water and Wastewater Executives (16-hours)
- Acts of Terrorism/Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Preparedness and Response for Water and Wastewater Utility Operations (16-hours)
- Acts of Terrorism/Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Preparedness and Response for Water and Wastewater Small System Operators (16-hours)

The courses are designed to provide training to the three target audience groups on issues concerning preparing for, responding to and recovering from a WMD/terrorism incident targeted on water and wastewater facilities. Major topics covered in the courses include:

- 1) discussion of the characteristics and use of potential chemical, biological and radiological agents and explosives and the associated delivery methods related to water and wastewater systems,
- 2) the conduct of vulnerability assessments on local water and wastewater systems to determine current state of preparedness, mitigate risk and enhance security,

- 3) development (or revision) of applicable emergency response plans for these types of incidents and mitigation actions that can be taken through active and passive measures,
- 4) responding to and recovering from these types of incidents and overall impact of WMD, and
- 5) effectively interacting with the media and citizens (public information) during and after a WMD/terrorism incident.

A breakdown of the participant audience is as follows:

- **Executive Level:** Public Works Directors and Assistant Directors, W/WW Department Heads and Assistant Managers, City Managers, City Council Members, Regulatory Personnel (federal, state and local), Plant Design (Senior) Engineers, LEPC Directors, Public Health Directors, Police/Fire Department Heads
- **Utility Operations:** Treatment Plant Superintendents, Plant Operators (public, private and industrial), Laboratory Supervisors/Personnel, Water Quality Technicians (people who oversee field operations), State and Local Public Health Regulatory Field Investigators/Inspectors, Crew Chiefs, Shift Foremen/Supervisors, Maintenance Personnel, Heavy Equipment Operators, Meter Readers, Customer Service Inspectors, Backflow Testers, Distribution Field Personnel
- **Small Systems:** (less than 250 connections): Includes all disciplines listed above except Laboratory Supervisors/Personnel and representatives from the Executive Level

These courses are DHS-funded and taught on site within the jurisdiction. Each training day extends from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a one-hour break for lunch. The courses typically begins on Tuesday morning and ends on Wednesday evening. Participants must attend at least 85 percent of all course hours in order to receive a NERRTC course attendance certificate. The participant materials provided for these courses include a participant manual with reference appendices.

Course Module Objectives

Each course includes six (6) distinct modules incorporating lecture, open-discussion and classroom exercises (individually and in groups).

- **Module 1: Terrorism/WMD Threats to Water and Wastewater Systems.** Course participants will be able to use the information provided to recognize potential terrorist/WMD threats to water and/or wastewater facilities and systems.
- **Module 2: Assessing Terrorism/WMD Risks for Water and Wastewater Systems.** Provided with information from the instructor, participants will be able to assess the risks and vulnerabilities of water and/or wastewater systems from a terrorism/WMD incident.
- **Module 3: Reducing Terrorism/WMD Risks for Water and Wastewater Systems (Mitigation).** Using information provided from the instructor and from currently available reference materials, participants will be able to develop measures to reduce the vulnerability of water and/or wastewater systems.

- **Module 4: Responding to Terrorism/WMD Incidents.** Using information provided from the instructor and from currently available reference materials, participants will be able to develop appropriate responses to an actual or threatened terrorism/WMD incident.
- **Module 5: Recovery from Terrorism/WMD Acts Directed Against Water and Wastewater Systems.** Using information provided from the instructor and from currently available reference materials, participants will be able to describe their roles in recovery from a terrorism/WMD incident.
- **Module 6: Public Information.** Using information provided from the instructor and from currently available reference materials and audio visual presentations, participants will be able to provide information to the public and media in a timely and appropriate manner during a terrorism/WMD incident, and, if necessary, during a threatened incident.

Intended Audience

Each jurisdiction should develop a multi-discipline incident management team capable of responding to either the crisis or the consequences of a WMD or terrorist incident. It is suggested that each jurisdiction assemble a group of individuals that best represents the job disciplines posted in the above-listed breakdown of the participant audiences.

- **Job Titles:** See above description of participant audiences
- **Organization:** Water/Wastewater Operation
Public Works
City Management/Council Members
Federal, State and Local Public Health Investigators/Inspectors
Federal, State and Local Regulatory Agency Representatives
Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC) Officials
Police and Fire Officials
- **Experience:** Currently employed in one of the above-listed organizations
- **Education:** GED to Ph.D.
- **Attitude:** The participants in this course will generally view themselves as guardians of the public trust. Their job is to protect and care for the general welfare of the citizens of their respective communities and the public infrastructure.
- **Motivation:** These participants must shoulder the responsibility of protecting the public and the public's infrastructure. They also are concerned about the personal liability of their employees.
- **Special Needs:** Pressed for time
- **Optimal Class Size:** 40 participants

Jurisdictional Support and Coordination Requirements

Each jurisdiction that schedules and agrees to serve as the “host” for the course must help organize participants and supply other personnel and equipment support:

Personnel

- One primary point of contact (POC) with phone, fax, e-mail and mailing address for coordinating all course scheduling and administrative support.
- An optimum class size of **40** course participants and a **maximum based on size of facilities and equipment**.
- Provide to each participant a copy of the course roster that at a minimum should include name, department, telephone number and email address.

Facilities and Equipment

- A classroom for 40-60 participants capable of supporting small group activities.
- Provide a VCR player, television viewing screen, projection system and a microphone system for the instructors (if needed).
- Equipment will be provided by NERRTC if any item is not available.

NERRTC Contributions

NERRTC will provide each jurisdiction with the following:

- The instructor team
- All instructional materials and participants materials
- Funding for the instructor team (including travel and per diem costs) and all instructional materials

There are no direct costs or course costs to the jurisdiction. NERRTC and TEEX do *not*, however, cover the costs of jurisdictional salaries, nor travel or per diem costs for course participants, should they be required.

Course Schedule Information

Sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security and
The National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC)

Please contact Mr. Richard Harbuck at (979) 845-4697 or Mr. Bob Fischer at (979) 845-7390 for more information about the courses and to discuss available course offering dates. Our program coordinator will work with your jurisdiction's contact person to make final arrangements for the course. Thank you for your interest in this course.

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**Department of Homeland Security
Office for Domestic Preparedness**

**The Texas A&M University System (TAMUS)
Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)
National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC)**

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